CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A discharge lamp ~~having~~ comprising:

a discharge vessel, in whose interior an ionizable filling is enclosed in a gas-tight manner, the discharge vessel having at least one sealed-off end which is provided with a current feedthrough, and the at least one current feedthrough being connected to an electrode which protrudes into the interior of said discharge vessel and has a section (41) which extends into ~~sai~~ said sealed-off end,

wherein said section of the electrode which extends into said sealed-off end is provided with a coating, which contains a high-melting metal from the group of the platinum metals, namely one of the metals: ruthenium, iridium, osmium and rhodium.

2. (Original) The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said coating extends over the entire surface of said section of the electrode which extends into said sealed-off end.

3. (Cancel) The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said high-melting metal from the group of the platinum metals is one of the metals ruthenium, iridium, osmium or rhodium

4. (Original) The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said coating consists of ruthenium or an alloy of the electrode material with ruthenium.

5. (Original) The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thickness of said coating (410) is at least 100 nm.

6. (Original) The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said electrode consists of tungsten.

7. (Original) The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said discharge vessel consists of quartz glass.

8. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said lamp is a metal-halide high-pressure discharge lamp ~~as claimed in claim 1~~.

CLAIM STATUS:

Claims 1: (Currently amended)

Claims 2: (Original)

Claims 3: (Canceled)

Claims 4 - 7: (Original)

Claims 8: (Currently amended)